

Friends of Kennebunk Free Library
Zoom Meeting Draft Minutes
Monday, January 8, 2024

Attending: *Donna Gomez (meeting chair), DD Harrington, Jim Perry, Dianne Napolitano, Laura Dauphinais, Risa Oganessoff Heersche, Diana Rush, Linda DeFelice, Judith Pitchforth, Deb Redding-Sampson (recorder), Michelle Conners (Library Director), Allison Atkins (Assistant Director), Anita Randall (Development Director)*

Minutes of November 6, 2023, accepted unanimously without edits (Linda, Risa)

OLD BUSINESS

Book Sorting Committee: lots of book donations are coming in, most in great shape, but some without barcodes (cannot be resold through Kevin). These will go into the general book sales. Donna reported she secured a donation of 60 historical military paperback books via Facebook (Three Towns One Community) which will go to Operation Paperback (for US military bases around the world). A letter from a staff sergeant was received recently thanking KFL for book donations.

Action: Allison will email Kevin to pick up boxes sorted by committee for sale.

2024 Membership Drive mailing went out—27 memberships have come back so far (2023 ended with membership of 64).

NEW BUSINESS

Winter pop-up sale: Donna and Peg will coordinate with Michelle for a sale at end of January/start of February. All paperbacks, kept in boxes.

Library Updates: Michelle reported the **new strategic plan** is in the information gathering stage, including a public survey (end of January); public and targeted focus groups; and interviews. Risa will assist in leading some groups. One Fletcher Street will figure in discussions. Lawyers are assisting in planning options, especially regarding the residential rentals.

Programs are going strong—January 27 is Fashions of Jane Austin event. Allison noted they are working to build KFL's "Library of Things" to borrow (not books). She also noted that patrons like the "exchanges" such as gift wrapping, seed starting, etc.

Anita reported that the winter fundraising goal (\$35,000) was met successfully, and thanked Friends for assisting with mailing, donating, volunteering. As of today, over \$41,000 has been raised.

New tables are coming (Huston and Co!) and more electric outlets installed with *Room at Work and Libraries* grant money received.

OTHER

Michelle will investigate after-hour use of some One Fletcher parking spots.

Storybook ornaments are down and boxed. Donna will check the Friends closet for more acid free tissue paper supply. A suggestion was made to alert patrons to the tree being up in December, including families with children. Perhaps a story time with the ornaments or near the tree? Display some ornaments in the children's room?

A big thank you to staffer **Brittany** for repairing some of the ornaments—they look like new!

Empty banker boxes from book donations are piling up—**Michelle** will make them available to patrons.

2024 Book Sales and other events:

May Day Book Sale (1st Saturday in May) –May 4th, 2024

Blueberry Festival Book Sale – mid to late July

HarvestFest Book Sale—early to mid-October

2024 meetings: April 8, September 9, and November 4, 2024. All are at 5:30-6:30 pm, location TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm (Deb)

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Redding-Sampson